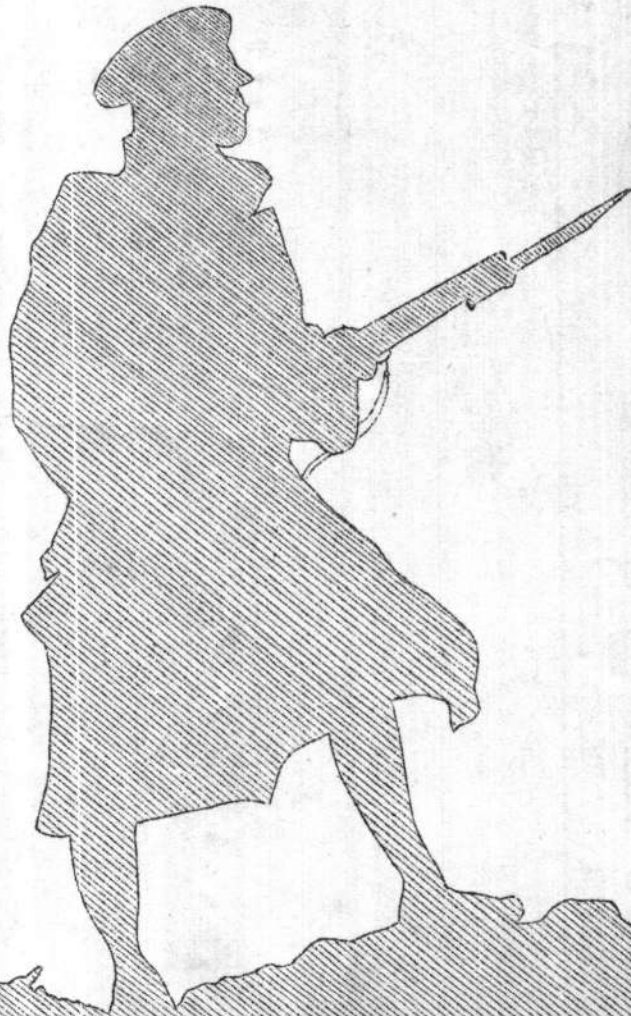


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"Let us forget"

VELD TRAILS

(OFFICIAL ORGAN OF TRANSVAAL ROVER SCOUTS)

VOL. I,

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EDITORIAL LICENSE.

The Transvaal Rover Conference has been the big event of the month in Transvaal Rovering and I am sure that all who attended were in no way disappointed with the way things turned out. The camping site was ideal with pleasant surroundings and well sheltered, the spirit of the whole gathering was a good healthy one, the discussions were of a high standard and every one went away convinced that Rovering in the Transvaal was still able to hold its own.

I wish to thank all those who attended for having made it the success it was, also those Rovers who placed their cars at the disposal of others unable to obtain transport. The Premier Mine Company also figure in this list for their kind permission to use the ground. Witbank deserves praise for having found Bronkhorstspuit and put it on the Rover map; all who assisted may be assured that their efforts are fully appreciated. Last but by no means least we have to thank R/L A. Nimmo for the good work he put into the camp fire and the manner in which he discharged the duties of chairman of the Conference. Tactfulness is a great thing in any chairman and "Skip" ably showed that he was not lacking in that.

To those who were unable to attend I can only hope they will be at the next camp we have - for believe it or not we're going to have another soon.

A comprehensive report of the Conference follows this column. Should any crew desire fuller details on the papers; The Missing Link between Scout and Rover; A Rover Crew is merely a Scouter's Nursery or Set Standards for Rovers please send in your name and something will be done about it.

It is gratifying to note that a Transvaal Rover Executive Council has been formed for the purpose of obtaining closer co-operation between the Rover Crews of the Transvaal. All deliberations and decisions arrived at by the T.R.E.C. will be published in Veld Trails.

There is an important matter to take note of this month. One of the cars from the Conference was involved in an accident at Johannesburg at 8.45 p.m. A black brief case containing the list of subscribers to Veld Trails disappeared. This was the only copy of names available. Every attempt will be made from various sources to post every subscriber his copy but in case some are left out please get in touch with me or M. Van Biene, P. O. Box 6687, Johannesburg, and your copy will be posted on immediately. Please spread this around.

One last thing. To make sure of your 1939 copies send in your subscription before 24th December, 1938.

Yours faithfully,

A. ROBERTSON.

1ST TRANSVAAL ROVER CONFERENCE.

SUNDAY 13TH.

The day dawned bright and clear. By 7.30 most of the fellows were busy preparing breakfast after a refreshing dip in the Wilge River. At 9.25 the crews gathered in a shady spot and the proceedings opened by the gathering saluting the flag. Bellevue Crew then lead the Rover's Own. After this the Conference settled down to business. The first paper read by St. Patrick's - The Missing Link between Scout and Rover - dealt with the age-old problem of how to keep the boys from the troop interested in Scouting until they had reached Rover age. The question of getting the new recruit to feel at home when admitted caused a deal of discussion. The Senior Patrol method came in for some criticism as well as the suggestion that Rovers should become friendly with prospective members by becoming Badge Examiners. It was suggested, amongst

other things, that recruits should come up to the crew in a group so as to have friends of their own age and standing in the crew and thus obviate any suggestion of loneliness or inferiority complex. One very strong point brought up was that Rovers should act as examples to the new recruit. It was a shock to many a young lad coming up from the troop, imbued with the ideal and spirit of the Tenth Scout Law, to find Rovers discussing sex and women and swearing freely. This obviously took away some of the glamour of Rovering and the boy classed Rovers, not as the grown up Scouts of the Movement, but "just like other blokes." Rovers should pay more attention to this and try by their own example to help the new recruit along. In concluding the discussion the chairman suggested that St. Patrick's report through the medium of Veld Trails the result of their own experiences with the Senior Patrol idea.

A wide game organised by Orange Grove now held the attention of the conference who were split up into four patrols. Signalling and fire-lighting played an important part in this game.

Upon resumption the chairman welcomed Mr. R. B. Hogg, D/C for Rovers. Mr. Hogg replied and expressed the hope that the Conference would result in some constructive efforts being made to place Rovering in this province on a sounder footing.

R/S Van Biene (Parkview) then read a paper outlining a scheme for closer co-operation amongst Rover crews. Considerable discussion followed and eventually it was proposed by Van Biene that a Transvaal Rover Executive Committee be formed as outlined. This was seconded by R/L Payne (Brakpan).

A break for tea was taken at this point.

Upon continuing representatives were elected from each crew to attend the meetings of the committee. The following names were put forward and accepted: Pretoria (Hatfield): S. Lowe with M. Rogan of Johannesburg as alternative. East Rand: A. Payne (Brakpan). Witbank: R/L Glen with A. Hartley of Johannesburg as alternative.

Crown Mines: V. Goodwin.

Orange Grove: R. Eagar.

Parkview: R. Smith.

St. Patrick's: D. Tener.

St. Andrew's: To come.

Bellevue: A. Hall.

R/L A. Nimmo was unanimously elected as chairman of the committee, and Veld Trails was recognised as the mouthpiece of the council.

Lunch interval terminated this session.

St. Andrew's commenced the afternoon session at 2.15 with a paper on "There is too much clique-ism in Rovering." This paper by one of the new crews was well

received but owing to this subject having cropped up in another discussion it was felt that no good purpose would be served by further discussion.

Pretoria (Hatfield) provided an interesting sidelight on Rover services by describing and passing round photographs of Boer War graves maintained by them. The marked contrasts of the graves in their old state and after clearing told of much hard work put into this service. It interested the Conference to know that there were 65 military cemeteries receiving the attention of this crew's services which must rank highly in the list of Good Deeds done by Pretoria.

Orange Grove created discussion on the subject "A Rover Crew is merely a Scouter's Nursery" in which the question as to whether a warranted Scouter should be an active member of the crew came up.

Parkview's paper - read at short notice by a substitute on account of the writer's absence - caused animated discussion. This paper - Set Standards for Rovers - held that Rovers should have tests laid down as for Scouts. Such tests were detailed in the paper but the general opinion of the meeting was that it would be most difficult to set standards of efficiency for Rovers.

This paper concluded the Conference the flag being lowered to the singing of the National Anthem.

Within a short time tents were packed and cars ready to depart in their several directions.

A sub-committee called upon Mr. H. W. L. Rayner and thanked him on the Conference's behalf for the kindness of the Premier Mine Company's in allowing us to use the site.

At 5.30 the spot was deserted and only the blackened remains of several camp fires testified to the First Transvaal Rover Conference's stay at Bronkhorstspuit.

THANKS!

Veld Trails acknowledges with thanks receipt of a donation of £1.0.0. from Brakpan Onoway Crew towards the upkeep of Veld Trails.

TO ALL WHO WILL NOT GET
THE CHRISTMAS NUMBER
IN TIME.

Veld Trails extends its good wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

CONFERENCE ROVERS IN MOTOR SMASH.

One of the cars carrying three Parkview Rovers was involved in a motor smash on the corner of Louis Botha Avenue and Louis Road, Orange Grove, on Sunday night at 8.45 p.m. The three occupants were M. Van Biele, I. Kennett and J. Warden and they were returning from the Rover Conference held during the week end. It appears that at the cross road another car crashed into the Rover's small Morris turning it round several times. Van Biele escaped unhurt, but Kennett and Warden sustained injuries, and were taken to the General Hospital where Kennett was detained with broken ribs and injuries to the back. The car was totally wrecked.

Our sympathies go to 'Ike' on his mishap and we wish him a speedy recovery.

Any Rover visiting the hospital may see 'Ike' in Ward No. 4, Bed 18.

A TRANSVAAL ROVER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE -

Read at the Conference
by R/S M. Van Biele.

Most of you are no doubt aware of the formation of the Scouters Representative Committee which was formed at a Scouter's Conference held some months back. As a result of this Association a week-end Camp for Scouters was held at Gilwell, where a resolution was passed to the effect that the Scouters Representative Committee should continue to exist and that it should consist of three Scouters from each district representing the three branches of the movement.

From the Rovers point of view, theoretically speaking, we would have about 8 men representing Rovering in the Transvaal. You may say we are therefore wasting our time in that we already have a committee looking after Divisional efforts for Rovers.

I might say that personally speaking I do not think that this is going to help Rovering very much. Let me put forward my reasons:

1. Most Districts hold Scouters Meetings. At these meetings the Scouters swap ideas etc., etc., and come to definite conclusions regarding the policy, activities etc., of the district. It is then a simple matter

for this District Scouters' meeting to pass on its ideas through any one member who, in this case, would be the Scouters representative on the Transvaal Scouters Representative Committee.

Now what district can say that they are running a Rover leaders Council Meeting - None - because there are not enough crews in each district to warrant such a meeting. Any meetings between R/Ls, Rovers and Crews is left entirely to the initiative of the Rovers themselves and apparently Rovers are shy - hence no meetings. Therefore if some Rover or R/L is selected to represent his district it will be found that he cannot express the true opinion of all the Rovers in his district for, as I explained, he will probably never have met all the Rovers in his district and probably never will.

You will see therefore that the only use the Rover Representatives will have on this Committee will be to stand by for jobs of Service for the two other branches of the movement.

2. The activities, problems and training of Rovers is vastly different from that of Cubs or Scouts. These two are closely allied and for a more or less continuous training. Admittedly the fundamentals are the same. We have the same laws and promise. We have the same moral code of service and helpfulness, and we are in the same brotherhood of the open air. But, and what a but, look at our activities. - Badge system, we have none, while both Scouts and Cubs have a complete system on parallel lines. Programmes, how vastly different. The set programmes of the pack and the troop and the elastic programme of a Crew. Games - the well thought out games, training Scouts and Cubs in character, building them up mentally, morally and physically - while games played by Rovers are usually brute strength and are there in the programme simply for recreation. You might say the sections must work together. Do Universities, which cater for young men of about the same age as Rovers, mix with High Schools which correspond with the Scout Age? No is the answer. On the other hand Primary Schools which cover the Cub age co-operate to a large extent with the High Schools.

The University system of teaching is vastly different from the High School which on the other hand is exactly the same as the Primary School system. Exactly so in Scouting - Rover training differs from Scouting while Scouting and Cubbing are run on parallel lines. I conclude this paragraph by saying that

Rover Problems, Activities etc., are so vastly different from Scouting and Cubbing that it is essential that an entirely separate body be formed to represent Rovering in the Transvaal, although no harm can be done by still having representatives on The Scouters Representative Committee.

3. Certain Rover problems, and these are quite obvious, do not bear discussion in the Company of Lady Cubbers.

It will be seen from the above three points, and this by no means exhausts the list of reasons against the present system, that as far as Rovering is concerned no good will be gained by allowing the Transvaal Scouters Representative Committee to act as the controlling body for Rovers in the Division.

It is my firm belief that the stronger force Rovering becomes in the Division, the stronger will Scouting as a whole become. If Rovering was a force 10 times as strong as it is Scouters would have no difficulties with older Scouts being lost to the movement. Commissioners would have no difficulty in looking for officers etc., etc.

I further believe very firmly that the only way in which Rovering can rise to become a power in Scouting is by having some controlling body representing all crews in the Division, this body to have full constitutional powers and backed by Divisional Scout Council.

I shall endeavour to outline to you my ideas regarding the constitution, powers and duties of such a Council.

1. The Council shall be called the "Transvaal Rover Executive Council".

2. The Council shall consist of one representative from each crew in the Division, not necessarily Rover Leaders. In the case of country crews a deputy or nominee may be appointed who is resident in the particular town where the meetings will be held.

3. The Council, as such, shall meet for Ordinary Meetings once every month, but further meetings called "Special Meetings" may be held as and when necessary.

4. The Council shall appoint sub-committees as and when required. These Sub-committees shall meet independent of the council. The sub-committees shall have the power to make recommendations to the Council, but the final decision shall rest with the Council.

5. Monthly meetings shall be held at such centres as is decided upon from time to time by the council.

6. Each member shall be entitled to one vote, and a member absenting himself from a meeting may appoint another member as his representative at that meeting with power to vote for the absentee member.

7. The Chairman and office bearers shall be elected annually. In the event of the Chairman not being present at a meeting the council shall have the power to elect a Chairman from those present.

8. Each Crew shall be required to appoint its representative annually.

9. Etc. Etc.

The objects of the council shall be to further Rovering in the Division by co-operation through the said Council.

Typical activities of the Council would be:-

1. Publicity for the movement in general and Rovering in particular.

2. Divisional Service to the community in general and Scouting in particular.

3. Organization of Divisional Functions such as Excursions and visits to places of interest, camps, conferences dances, etc.

4. Organization of Divisional Competitions, such as Hikes, Athletics, Swimming, etc.

5. Arranging meetings to which Experts on their subjects could be invited to talk.

6. Act as controlling body for functions - to avoid Crew events clashing.

7. To control "Veld Trails" which will then act as the mouthpiece of the Council.

8. To Discuss Problems of Rovering, to make resolutions from the conclusions arrived at as the result of these discussions and then to submit these, if necessary, to the Transvaal Scout Council.

The powers of the Council will have to be decided upon by Transvaal Scout Council, but I think that the Council should be given full constitutional powers except in the matter of policy which should be referred to Mr. Hogg as Rover Commissioner or H/Q.

It will be seen then that such a committee will fill a gap which at the present moment is badly in need of being filled as is obvious from the following figures of Rovering in the Transvaal:

YEAR	NO. OF ROVERS	NO. OF CREWS
1934	376	34
1935	319	33
1936	268	27
1937	255	24
1938	253	23

In conclusion I would like to say that if such a Council is formed, and I sincerely hope it will be, and consists of active Rovers, Rovering in the Transvaal must go ahead.

Let us look to the future. Let us put Rovering on a firm foundation, so that we shall have no fear when our scouts reach Rover Age that they will say "We don't want to join the Crew because they don't seem to do anything in Rovering". Let us look back on this conference as the turning point in Rovering and in future years when we may perhaps have dropped out and others are carrying on, they will be able to say that the far-sighted policy of Rovers in 1938 put Rovering on a firm foundation so that they who followed might have a lead. Let us not have it said that Rovering is a failure but rather in the words of our Chief's let us look to "Rovering to Success".

ABANDONMENT OF PROPOSED FRESH AIR CAMP FOR POOR CHILDREN.

Veld Trails has been asked to convey to all Johannesburg Rover Crews who so willingly promised their support to the Fresh Air Camp Scheme proposed by Parkview Crew, the news that the scheme has been abandoned.

There are various reasons contributing to this decision.

A meeting was held at Scout Headquarters attended by five Rovers, two representatives from the Rand Aid, Messrs. K. Fleischer and L. M. Briggs. After the matter had been thoroughly gone into, it was proposed that Dr. Hans Pirow, Divisional Commissioner, approach the Sunday Express in order that they might sponsor the scheme, and give the scheme the desired publicity.

The Sunday Express were unable to accept the scheme, however, as they had already under way a similar scheme of their own. Further, a guarantee was required that the scheme would, if accepted by them, be carried on each year. This, as will be readily understood, was a promise that could not be given with certainty, and accordingly the scheme was dropped.

Another point that arises is the question of asking one particular paper to accept the scheme. The public might be under the impression that the Boy Scouts Association favoured a certain paper more than others.

Although the scheme has been abandoned there is reason to hope that some-

thing similar, but on a smaller scale, will be forthcoming next year. Meantime many thanks to all crews for their interest in the matter.

Veld Trails invites comments on the foregoing article, also on the one appearing in the October issue.

The opinions expressed in any article is not, unless definitely stated the opinions of Veld Trails.

Address all correspondence to The Editor, Veld Trails, 22, Cardiff Road, Parkwood, Johannesburg.

"Cobber, it's up to me and you
To see that half his dreams come
true " Dennis.

Twenty years ago the awful mistake which plunged Europe into a turmoil of blood and death ceased. People could not believe that peace had come to the world once more - and when they did realise it their joy knew no bounds. Nation after nation went down on bended knee in humble thanksgiving - and the whole world mourned the loss of millions of lives.

This month Armistice Day will be all the more significant to us - especially to the younger generation who were so very nearly plunged into a more fearful conflict than that of 1914 - 1918. There are those who hold the opinion that commemoration services such as this should be abandoned and that the world should be allowed to forget the wars of mankind. They argue that the sight of soldiers and military services tend to glorify the thought of conflict between nations. Perhaps they are right but that is no reason why those who gave their lives for their country should be forgotten.

We do not celebrate the anniversary of war, we do not think of the battles and the deaths, the victories and defeats rather do we remember the cause for which these men suffered. We think on the old men and the young men who died and we think on the hopes and the hearts that died with them. It was for mankind, liberty and peace that they made the sacrifice, not for their own ends, or for the glorification of one nation over another.

Let us, as Rovers, remember the glorious heritage of peace and honour they have left us, and let us commemorate their passing by endeavouring to

our utmost to promote the feelings of brotherhood and peace that this world desires so much.

"ONLOOKER"

WHAT WASTE.

"Maggie, Maggie!" cried an Aberdonian as he rushed home from work.

"Ay! Whit is it?" answered Maggie.

"A saved tuppence comin' hame the day.

A ran a' the way hame aifter a tram."

"Ye muckle fule", replied Maggie,

"cud ye no rin aifter a taxi an' save five bob?"

Half the world doesn't know how the other half lives, but they have their suspicions.

POSTAL PRATTLE.

Camberwell,
L O N D O N

Dear Ed.,

Many thanks for your last issue of Veld Trails. I liked the limericks: the rude young fellow of Florida who kissed chambermaids in the corrido made me smile. Here is one that might tickle your fancy:—"There was a young curate of Salisbury, Whose manners were quite halisbury-scalisbury,

He cycled round Hampshire,

Without any pampshire,

Till his Bishop told him he must walisbury".

The clue to this is that Salisbury (a cathedral city here) is known by its Latin name Sarum. Hampshire is abbreviated to "Hants". Now have you got it?

I note you have difficulty in getting Crews to outline their views on various matters in a letter to you, and have had poor response. I have known it too. I was forced to realise that some fellows find it very difficult to put their ideas down in a letter. The spirit is willing but the pen not facile enough. I used to send questionnaires - not such a satisfactory method I admit, but it got results. After all one can always leave a lot of space for "Other Remarks."

The international situation has cleared up considerably if one only looks back to last week. You know, there are times when I think we are living in abnormal times - nothing but wars and rumours of wars. When I reflect, however, I wonder whether human nature has really changed, and whether the experiences we are passing through to-day are the same as those experienced when Napoleon was on the warpath, or when Bismarck was propounding his "blood and iron" doctrines.

Going further back we find such troubles as the Mogol invasions, Attila and his Huns, etc. I don't think mankind has ever been free from such troubles. We are apt to think of these bygone events as "history" and forget that history is being lived right now.

There is no denying, however, that things were very serious. Everyone here, in this country is slightly pessimistic though definitely not jittery. It is said that we have a positive genius for "muddling through". Six months ago there was no marked enthusiasm for Air Raid Precaution schemes etc. People appeared to be indifferent. Then the war-clouds rolled along. Hitler's aims were clearly revealed and when he fixed Saturday as a time limit, 99% of the people believed that another World War was on the way. Chamberlain's dash to Germany by air surprised the whole world and brought home to every one at home and abroad the seriousness of the situation.

Plans made by the Home Office and sent to Local Authorities, were taken from their pigeon holes, dusted, and put into action. Unemployed men were given jobs digging trenches in parks and open spaces. Not a single able-bodied man was unemployed if he could dig. In St. James' park and other open spaces, mechanical excavators were at work day and night. At night, strings of electric lights festooned the trees. Mars' carnival indeed.

Tons of sand appeared from nowhere. Walls of sandbags protected the ground-level windows of large blocks of offices. I saw one man spraying the robots with black paint to dim them. Anti-aircraft guns appeared in various places - one on Westminster Bridge by the Houses of Parliament. Notices appeared advising people to go and be fitted for gas-masks. These had been in process of manufacture for a year or more - at least the component parts

were. Millions had to be assembled. This job was done by volunteers - either individual helpers, or in some case firms loaned some of their staff. Some were assembled in prisons and reformatories - why not?

On Monday I lined up in the queue at the nearest depot - a public library. There was a huge crowd and I had to wait three hours. It was a horrible experience having the mask put on, particularly as it had just been wiped with a powerfully-smelling disinfectant inside. The mask consists of a face-piece of rubber which fits closely round the jawbone and under the chin. Then there is a metal cannister terminating an inch or so from the nose, and a single window. This is the civilian pattern.

When I got home I simply could not concentrate on my work. Like everyone else I wanted to do something to help. Accordingly I went round to the depot which I had just left and there was given some clerical work to do. We worked from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. When I quitted the building a notice was being pasted up that gasmasks would actually be distributed next day. Things were coming to a head.

The next morning I went round again. A tremendous queue was waiting. We were shown how to fit the masks. In one day over 6,000 masks were distributed. The average time taken to fit on a mask was about one minute. Not many people made a fuss. We had a few stock jokes to crack to put people at their ease. Such jokes as these:

"Been for your mask yet?"

"Mask? Why I've got it on. You don't think this is my face, do you?"

"Got your mask?"

"No, my wife's knitting me one, thanks."

Several joke cartoons featuring gasmasks have appeared. One shows a woman wearing her gasmask at the dentist's. The dentist is waiting to administer gas.

I have mentioned some of these jokes as I believe that the trend of public opinion can be gauged from them.

It was a common sight to see children taking their outfits to school (mask, blanket etc.) in readiness for the impending evacuation.

When the Fleet was mobilised on Wednesday even the optimists thought this was the beginning of the end. A friend of mine who works at the Admiralty had to take his bed to office, as work went on day and night in shifts. Territorials were called up for defence units, everywhere the business of re-arming went on - and yet we didn't realise history was being made.

Well, that's a very sketchy account of how London prepared. Now that a respite has been gained, inevitable criticism has set in - much of it deserved. There are serious deficiencies in our defence but what I don't like about these criticisms is that they imply that London has made a proper mess of the job whilst Berlin is 100% efficient. It is only when a country has a free press that criticisms are made and the public made aware of what is going on. As you can see from your newspapers we are now pulling up our socks and various civilian armies are being raised for A.R. work.

This is a very long letter and I think I had best end it now before it becomes too boring.

Yours in Rovering,

W. BAGLEY.

Mr. Bagley is a London Rover and has frequently appeared in print in the pages of the Rover World. He would, I am sure, welcome letters from Rovers in South Africa telling him all about yourselves and your crews. Pen friends are very fine friends to have and I can assure anyone contemplating writing to him that they'll not regret it. - EDITOR.

WEST RAND IN THE NEWS.

For the first time news of a District Rover Crew starting on the near West Rand is being published. We are proud to say it has come into being through the untiring efforts of R/L Wilfred Walkom, better known as "Wullie". The districts comprising this crew are: Roodepoort, Florida, Maraisburg and Bantjes.

The first meeting was held in the Florida Den on Thursday, 8th September. Since then four further successful meetings have taken place with an attendance of nine members. It is hoped that as the weeks go on the membership will increase.

As this is a District Crew it is unfair to connect it with Florida or even its troop. No suitable name has been selected yet, although at last Thursday's meeting it was suggested that an endeavour be made to link it up with B.A. Hart's name as he has done so much good for Scouting in the district during past years. It is hoped that this name question will be solved at the next meeting which is to be held in the

Florida Den on Thursday, 13th October at 7.30 p.m.

Meanwhile a cordial invitation is issued to all crews to visit this youngest addition to Rover Scouting.

OF INTEREST.

J.M. Reid (Crown Mines) writes to let us know that Veld Trails is well thought of in Canada. He has regularly sent a copy of the magazine to a Rover pen friend in British Columbia. His last letter to J.M.R. says that the paper "is just the berries" and best wishes for its success are sent.

We should like to hear from this Rover how Rovering is progressing in Canada and at the same time would ask him to convey hearty Christmas Greetings to his Crew from all Transvaal Crews.

CREW FLASHES.

PARKVIEW: Not much to talk about these days. Most of the cads are busy swatting(?) Anyway we do have a meeting now and again just to show there's no ill feeling. Haven't quite got over the Jamboree - Oh! Boy! was it a Jamboree or wasn't it. Ask Ike, Dug, Van, Jack and some others. There's a nice little story going round as to how Jack practised his art of sculpting on a certain fixture in a certain flat. Sorry to say Paul hasn't been up to the scratch as regards his general health lately but we all wish him a speedy recovery back to normal. Had Ken Fleischer down to the Crew on Monday night, 31st October. He delivered a wonderful address on Organisation and Delimitation and spoke as one inspired on the true spirit of Scouting. On Monday, 7th November, enjoyed the Cubbers get-together evening at Rosebank Hall. And we musn't forget the Rover Conference which proved that things can be done if we get together. Our sympathy goes to Ike, Jimmy and Van on their unfortunate motor smash. Get better quickly, Ike, it's nearly Christmas. How's the car going, Van? In fact looking at the above column there has been a bit to talk about. By the way St. Patrick's you can have us any time you like - what about coming over to our new den one evening. Make the necessary arrangements with our Scribe, E. Hobbs, 5, Goring Avenue, Auckland Park. Then by the time next Veld Trails is out the rest of the Transvaal shall read about the mess we made of you - and indeed it shall be a glorious victoree.

(Parkview never seem to have much to talk about but by the time they're finished there's a whole column gone. They seem to be pretty sure of themselves, St. Patrick's, it's leggie isn't it? Let's know what really happens, will you? - Ed.)

BOKSBURG: Just beautiful Boksburg.

BENONI: Nothing to write about.

OTHER CREWS: Not interested.

ORANGE GROVE: Still going strong on the new series of programmes which are providing variety and holding the interest of the crew. Recently held an interesting debate on the subject of Czechoslovakia and Germany. Now busy with preparations for our annual Christmas party to less fortunate children, also busy working on spectacular decorations for the Group Carnival at Christmas. Crew assisted with the cooking at the Scouter's Conference at Gilwell during November and also with the N/E Districts Guy Fawkes Treasure Hunt. Yet another crew member has taken on service to the movement - Claude Cook as S.M. of 1st Norwood. Three crew members attended the Vereeniging Jamboree, and enjoyed themselves although Sid does not approve of being a policeman at 4 in the morning when it's so beastly cold and wet and when there are absolutely no girls to be shown round the camp, or anything like that. (Sid isn't the only one who has the sentiments expressed above. Certain other Rovers are of the same mind. Ed.)

ST. PATRICK'S: The crew have given their whole-hearted 100% support to the proposed scheme of organising a camp for less fortunate children of our city. Still waiting for further details so can't say much more at present. Boquets to Parkview for the splendid idea. Say Ed! we're still waiting for an answer to our challenge to Parkview. After the success of our annual Group Concert the crew are now hard at work on the Xmas Tree to be given to the Poorer children of La Rochelle. By the way - we are repeating aforementioned concert in aid of Southern Suburbs Scout Hall Fund. Will let you know more later. We intend to be at the 1940 Sarsi in full force and have accordingly started a fund. You watch us! The crew wish to extend to Veld Trails and to all Rovers, Scouters, Brass Hats - in fact everybody - their best wishes for a Merry Xmas and Good Camping for the New Year. (Thanks St. Patrick's for your news.

You have been one of the most regular correspondents to Veld Trails in this respect and we appreciate it. Read Parkview's blurb re the challenge and then get going. Many thanks for your good wishes and the same to the whole crew of you. Ed.)

BRAKPAN (ONOWAY CREW): After hearing about our sins at the conference have come to the conclusion we'd better pull our socks up - so here you are. Re the challenges shouted out by some other crews we're ready, aye ready, to take 'em on at any game they like, also a few of our own. How about it boys? Let's arrange dates and places - get in touch with us. Still busy on our den and hope to have it finished soon. Held a dance 'other night (fireworks and all), all agreed it was hot stuff and wanted to know when the next one was to be held. In ending here's our vote of thanks to Veld Trails for the successful weekend and for enabling Rovers to get to know one another.

Brakpan's Address: A. Payne, 31
Fireshire Road, Brenthurst, Brakpan.
(I'm glad to hear you've repented of your sins and are now making good. Yes, fireworks are 'Hot stuff' - didn't you know? Your remarks on the conference are very much appreciated. - Ed.)

THIRD WORLD ROVER MOOT - SCOTLAND 1939

I am to inform you that the 3rd World Rover Moot will be held in the Park of Monzie Castle, Crieff, Scotland, from July 15th to the 25th 1939, followed by a visit for three days (July 26th to 29th) to Edinburgh. The total cost of the camp, excursions, and the visit to Edinburgh, is expected to be £4 per Rover Scout. This will include transport to and from the camp from any Port in Great Britain. A preliminary programme with full information and forms of application will be sent to you later.

Rover Scouts from South Africa desiring to participate must communicate with their own Divisional Headquarters for their names to be recorded. As in the past no organised tour arrangements will be made for the South African representation, mainly because of the small number of Rover Scouts who have in the past been able to attend International Rover Moots, with the result that a comprehensive tour is out of the question from a financial point of view. The last Rover Moot was only attended by six Rover Scouts from South Africa.

After the Moot, therefore, Rovers will be free to make their own arrangements, either to visit friends, or to carry out tours, prior to returning to South Africa.

In addition to the camp fee of £4 and the cost of staying in England before and after the Moot, the Union Castle Company have quoted the following fares:-

Sailing on the Arundel Castle

Leave Cape Town 23rd June 1939 -
arrive Southampton 7th July 1939

Returning on the Warwick Castle

Leave Southampton 10th August 1939 -
arrive Cape Town 24th August 1939

TOURIST RETURN FROM CAPE TOWN - £43. 4. 0
nett.

If the party returns on the Cape Town Castle, sailing from Southampton on August 18th, arriving Cape Town Sept. 1st, the fare will be £47.10. 5.

The Carnarvon Castle sails from Southampton on August 24th, arriving Cape Town Sept. 8th, the fare will be as quoted for return on the Warwick Castle.

It is suggested that the party should sail from South Africa on the Arundel and return on the Warwick. Would you be kind enough to circulate this information amongst your Rover Scouts in order that they may make preliminary arrangements in regard to obtaining leave.

K.N. FLEISCHER

DIVISIONAL SECRETARY TRANSVAAL

SPECIAL NOTE

Will all crews who have not yet elected their representative to the Transvaal Rover Executive Committee, please do so as soon as possible and send names and addresses to c/o The Editor,

Veld Trails,
22 Cardiff Road,
Parkwood,
JOHANNESBURG.